

REMARKS

By the present Amendment, the previously existing independent claims have been amended in accordance with the non-entered Amendment dated June 5, 2003. In addition, the specification has been revised in a manner which is believed to be consistent with a more clear translation of the Japanese language PCT application. In this latter respect, if the Examiner would prefer a Declaration which relates to this revision of the specification, applicants will provide one. Finally, new independent claim 32 has been added which includes this revised language from the specification.

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims of record meet the single rejection of the claims under the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112 set forth in the Final Official Action dated January 10, 2003, and maintain that the claims are patentable over art of record since the art does not disclose or suggest the various embodiments defined in the current claims.¹

Should the Examiner wish to discuss any aspect of the application, he is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

By: 
Robert G. Mukai
Registration No. 28,531

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404
(703) 836-6620
Date: August 5, 2003

¹ As to withdrawn claims 20 and 21, applicants again respectfully request rejoinder pursuant to the provisions of MPEP §821.04.